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MOST APPROVED STYLE.

CANT A NEGRO SNEEZE?
Evidence That Precludes Any Further
Discussion on That Point.

New York Sun.

The following paragraph, copied into the Sun of Thursday from a Florida paper, excited attention: "Will some medical man explain why it is that the negro never sneezes? Ask any old planter, who owned scores of servants and he will tell you he never heard one of his servants sneeze. It may appear a very singular fact, but it is none the less true. This statement having been contradicted the Sun determined to settle the question by obtaining a number of interviews on the subject from intelligent colored residents of this city. Without exception these interviews resulted in indignant denials of the statement. 'Well, sneezes, well, sneezes,' was the answer of the man of color who was not equal to those of his white brother. Ex-Alderman and the present Deputy Sheriff, John Seaton, the ebullient giant who guards the lower hallway of the Equitable building, was highly indignant when shown a printed statement to the effect that negroes were never known to sneeze. With a snort of contempt he said, 'That's a lie, and I know it's a lie; I'm a negro, and I sneeze.' The fellow that wrote that must have been a loafer who had nothing else to do. I'll bet I can sneeze more times in a minute than he ever had dollars in his life. In a restaurant in Park Row, Josh and George, and half a dozen other colored waiters, listened with interest to the reading of the obnoxious paragraph, and their black faces lighted with broad grins before it was finished. 'Well, I sneeze, well, sneezes,' said one. 'Me too,' said another; 'we all sneeze, don't we, Josh?' But Josh only smiled and walked away. George said that he sneezed sometimes if he sneeze his head off.

In the Astor house the flourishing of a whisk broom in close proximity to the reporter's ears was suddenly suspended as we mildly inquired of the artist of the broom. 'Do you sneeze?' 'Does I sneeze in one of these ways?' 'Why of course I sneeze; everybody who has a head sneezes. Why, boss, you must be a little off to ask me such a fool question as that.' At twenty-third street and Sixth avenue 'Black Joe' polishes boots. He stopped his work in astonishment when the reporter, upon whose boots he was laboring, asked him if gentlemen of color like himself were able to sneeze. 'Sneezes,' Does colored gentlemen sneeze, well, sneezes, well, sneezes, for a fact. Why, dey ain't no sneezers in de world like nigger sneezers. I sneezed more'n four million times myself, and even my 'ole months' ole baby sneezed this mornin' in one of these ways. He sneezed hisself clean out of his cradle on de 10th of Nov. Somebody was foolin' yer, for shuah, when he told yer that yam 'bout colored folks not sneezin'.

A lady living in one of the best of the stables was willing to bet, 'an' de money planked down,' that he could sneeze louder than any white man in the city, and he knew 'a feller wist could sneeze louder than any nigger.' Suffering from a cold, he picked up a wisp of straw, tickled his nose with it for a moment, shut his eyes, and, with a terrible contortion of the facial muscles, started the neighborhood with a sneeze so loud and emphatic that it alone was sufficient to set at rest forever the vexed question.

To make assurance double shure, the reporter called upon an eminent physician in an up-town hospital, and ascertained from him that he had examined a great number of negroes, and that he had never known one who could sneeze. 'Certainly, sir; to be sure a negro may sneeze if he wants to—why not?' 'But I mean, Doctor, are the nasal organs of a negro so constructed as to render him capable of sneezing?' 'Oh, I understand; you, like the gentleman who some time ago came to me with the conundrum 'Are flies and on the ground?' are in pursuit of information. Well, sir, as you, of course, know, sneezing is one of the commonest examples of reflex action. The stimulus, coming in contact with the delicate membrane lining the nostrils, is transmitted to the brain, which then sends out a message to the muscles of the face, which, in turn, causes the sneeze. It is a purely mechanical process, and is not in the least affected by the color of the skin. So that a person, that is, a person of any color, may sneeze if he wants to—why not?' 'But I mean, Doctor, are the nasal organs of a negro so constructed as to render him capable of sneezing?' 'Oh, I understand; you, like the gentleman who some time ago came to me with the conundrum 'Are flies and on the ground?' are in pursuit of information. Well, sir, as you, of course, know, sneezing is one of the commonest examples of reflex action. The stimulus, coming in contact with the delicate membrane lining the nostrils, is transmitted to the brain, which then sends out a message to the muscles of the face, which, in turn, causes the sneeze. It is a purely mechanical process, and is not in the least affected by the color of the skin. So that a person, that is, a person of any color, may sneeze if he wants to—why not?' 'But I mean, Doctor, are the nasal organs of a negro so constructed as to render him capable of sneezing?' 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